

January 19, 2005

News Release

NORTHERN OHIO YOUTH SOCCER COACH SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

CLEVELAND— A 31-year-old youth soccer coach in the Cleveland area who pleaded guilty in November to receiving child pornography through an Internet subscription was sentenced Tuesday to 60 months in federal prison.

U.S. Attorney Gregory White of the Northern District of Ohio and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agent-in-Charge Brian M. Moskowitz jointly announced the sentencing of Andrew E. Zupko.

ICE agents began the investigation after Zupko was found subscribing to a child pornography Web site. Agents executed a search warrant last spring at Zupko's apartment and uncovered more than 200 computer images and 40 movies containing minors participating in sexually explicit conduct.

"Operation Predator and the efforts of prosecutors continue to prove that child pornographers can't exploit children and hide in the anonymity of cyberspace," said Detroit Special Agent-in-Charge Brian M. Moskowitz, who leads ICE criminal investigations in Ohio. "It is profoundly disturbing that he engaged in this activity while in a position of trust as a youth soccer coach."

Operation Predator began in July of 2003 and has resulted in 4,785 criminal arrests nationwide, with 45 in Ohio. ICE has a toll free number for the public to report illegal activity, including information about child sex offenders and others who put children at risk. The toll-free tip hotline is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is 1-866-DHS-2ICE.

The Parma Police Department provided investigative assistance and the case was prosecuted by Assistant U. S. Attorney Michael Sullivan.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.

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